

which was announced last year by the Department of Environmental Control. This bill, with the adoption of the committee amendment, is carefully drafted, contains many compromises with the approval of the well drilling industry, the agencies who are involved, and the persons who are interested in protection of the state's groundwater. I would urge you to adopt the committee amendment and advance the bill. I'll just very briefly go through the summary because I know that some of you may not have seen it, and I will not take a lot of your time. Then I will answer any questions that might be asked, or attempt to answer those questions. Section 3 through 16 actually are all definitions. Section 17 establishes the Water Well Standards and Contractors Licensing Board. Section 18 requires that the Governor make the appointments within 60 days. Section 19 requires that the board meet within 60 days. Section 20 provides that the board members shall receive no compensation for services, but shall be entitled to actual and necessary expenses that are currently paid to other state employees. Section 21 provides that the Department of Health designate an individual, approved by the board, to serve as executive secretary to the board, and to furnish such offices and materials as may be necessary for operation of the board. Section 22 directs the board to adopt rules and regulations to administer the various responsibilities. Section 23 provides for the Department of Health to administer examinations, and directs the board to determine examination details. Section 24 provides the authority to set reasonable license fees. Such fees shall include no more than \$25 for application, not less than \$50, nor more than \$300 for license issuance. I want to point out at this time that this board will be cash funded through this license procedure. Section 25 provides for continuing education. Section 26 provides that the Department of Health is responsible for the administration and enforcement. Section 27 provides the Health Department and Environmental Control Council with the authority to establish standards for water well construction. Section 28 gives the Department of Health the authority to inspect water wells and well sites. Twenty-nine sets out the procedure to be followed by a license applicant who desires to engage in the construction of water wells or the installation of pumps and pumping equipment. Section 30 requires all license holders to show proof of liability and property damage insurance coverage. Thirty-one sets out the procedure to be followed by certificate applicants who